

3 cassette that stores substrates, a manual transfer device for transferring the cassette
4 according to an instruction of an operator, and a process apparatus for performing
5 predetermined steps on the substrate stored in the cassette, the process apparatus
6 including a loader having a port on which cassettes transferred by the automatic transfer
7 device and the manual transfer device are placed, and a job table on which the
8 predetermined steps on the substrate stored in the cassette on the port are performed,
9 comprising the steps of:

- 10 a, (a) transferring the cassette to the process apparatus through the automatic transfer device
11 or the manual transfer device when the port is available;
12 (b) transmitting a communication start signal to the loader by the automatic transfer
13 device when the cassette is transferred to the process apparatus through the automatic
14 transfer device;
15 (c) loading the cassette to the port from the automatic transfer device;
16 (d) loading the cassette to the port according to the instruction of the operator when the
17 cassette is transferred to the process apparatus through the manual transfer device in step
18 (a);
19 (e) determining whether the cassette is detected on the port;
20 (f) determining whether the communication start signal is detected when the cassette is
21 detected on the port; and
22 (g) setting the process apparatus in an automatic transfer mode when the communication
23 start signal is detected, and setting the process apparatus in a manual transfer mode when
24 the communication start signal is not detected.

1 8 (Amended). The method of claim 7, wherein step (c) comprises the steps of:

2 determining whether the communication start signal is received;
3 requesting a cassette loading to the automatic transfer device when the communication
4 start signal is received; and C
5 loading the cassette to the port according to the request.

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2 9 (Amended). The method of claim 8, wherein the method further comprises the steps of:
3 (h) automatically chucking the cassette when the process apparatus is set in the automatic
4 2 transfer mode and chucking the cassette according to the instructions of the operator
5 when the process apparatus is set in the manual transfer mode;
6 (i) reading the cassette ID of the cassette using the cassette ID reader on the loader, and
7 (j) checking a position and a number of the glass substrates in the cassette on the port in
step (g).

REMARKS

A Petition and fee for a two-month extension of time is being filed concurrently herewith.

Claims 7-9 remain presented for reconsideration. Non-elected claims 1-6 are herein canceled.

Brief Description of the Present Invention.

Briefly, the present invention is directed to a system for moving substrates stored in a cassette in and out of a manufacturing process apparatus in either an automatic mode or a manual mode using either an automated guided vehicle (AGV) or a manually guided vehicle (MGV). As explained in the background section on page 2 of the specification, in prior art systems, cassettes can be moved in and out of the manufacturing process apparatus using only the transfer device (i.e., the AGV or the MGV) that corresponds the mode of operation previously set. Using the wrong transfer device causes an error to occur.